THE MERIDIAN
SWAVESEY

No. 212 February/March 2025

EDITORIAL

SPRING ! is knocking on the door now- it will be good to have the longer days and hopefully a bit more sunshine. Look out for spring flowers coming into bloom a lot of these have been planted by village groups, so thanks to all of those who organised this. Please leave them alone and do not pick them.

Lighter nights will be welcome I am sure but please follow the rule when parking on the road at night. -check your highway code.

What's happening? Look in your Meridian where events are publicised we do need you to tell us about them but these are for community events not commercial ones we have space available in the next issue. Deadline for submission is the 20th February which covers the April/May issue

Editor

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Front Cover - Daffodils by Edwin Parish	
Inside Front Cover - Rainbow by Edwin Parish	
Inside Back Cover - Camera Club Exhibition	
Back Cover - Energise Dance Event	
Editorial	page 1
Meridian Committee	page 2
Major Events List	page 3
Dates for your diary and forthcoming events	page 4
Club Reports	page 5-10
Miscellany	page 12-24
Medical News	Page 25 -27
School Information	page 28-32
Parish and County news	page 33-36
Churches	page 38-43
Community Groups & Charities table	page 44
Club Information	page 45-47
Advertiser	Page 48-62
Advert Costs, Major Events & Birthday forms	Page 62-63
Useful Telephone Numbers	page 64

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Major Events List

This list is intended to avoid major events clashing on the same day. It will only work if we are advised of all such events, so please let us know as soon as you can confirm the details.

A form is available at the back of this magazine. We will list them in this section of the Magazine and also on our website at:- www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

Saturday 8 February	April Burgess Martin School of Ballet	ENERGISE dance showcase - Swavesey Village College - tickets from Swavesey Village College 2 performances - Young dancers from the area now in its 15th year
Saturday 22 March	Camera Club	Photo Exhibition - 10am - 4pm in The Memorial Hall
Saturday 17 May	St Andrews	Plant Sale

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February		
Friday 7	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Saturday 8	April Burgess Martin School of Ballet	ENERGISE dance showcase - Swavesey Village College - tickets from Swavesey Village College 2 performances - Young dancers from the area now in its 15th year
Thursday 13	Parish Council	Planning Meeting
Friday 14	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Friday 21	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Monday 24	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Friday 28	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Only
March		
Friday 7	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Thursday 13	Parish Council	Planning Meeting
Friday 14	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Friday 21	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Saturday 22	Camera Club	Photo Exhibition - 10am - 4pm in The Memorial Hall
Monday 24	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Friday 28	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins

CLUB REPORTS

Swavesey WI News

Meetings coming up:	
February 10th	"My Creative Journey" by Amanda Sutherland.
March 10th	AGM followed by a talk, "Art and the Suffragettes" by Caroline Shenton.

At November's meeting, members were found enjoying a fun evening with Linda Smith, who gave a demonstration on how to make crackers for Christmas. Each member was given a kit to make their own cracker to take home.

Also in November Swavesey WI hosted a police talk on "Scams and Fraud". This was an Open Meeting for the village. It was well attended and very informative. If you have been a victim of fraud please report this to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visit their website:- www.actionfraud.police.uk

Members have been very generous in their support of the WI Dental Health Campaign which is a national campaign for more Dental Practice appointments for NHS patients. Our members' donations of toothpastes and toothbrushes were donated to the Godmanchester Food Bank.

The WI party season kicked off with our Christmas meal at The Golden Ball at Boxworth. Members, friends and some husbands enjoyed an excellent meal there. A week later in the Memorial Hall we all got together for our Christmas Party which consisted of a full buffet, drinks, fun and lots of chat and cheer! Very well attended, our members know how to have a good evening!

Swavesey WI wish all our readers a very Happy New Year!

We look forward to seeing you at Compass Cafe on the 4th Thursday of the month at the Bethel Church.

For further information about any of our meetings please contact Glesny Sheppard 01954 201731/Deirdre Burgess 01954 230897.

OUR EXHIBITION IS COMING SOON

If you look through this issue you will find several mentions of our popular Annual Exhibition, to be held in the Memorial Hall on Saturday, 22nd March. This is quite some time in the future yet, so please make a note in your diaries, we would be sorry if you all didn't come along, it is a great opportunity to share our work with friends, and yours to have coffee and a cake, watch the Audiovisual show and buy beautiful cards.

This year we have been super successful in local friendly competitions, coming first in the four way event with St Ives, St Neots and Ely, all with fine reputations. Many of our images scored the full mark of twenty, and this will be your chance to enjoy them.

In our last news we pointed out that at almost every meeting 'Weather' seemed to be the main subject. After the storms we have suffered there have been many photo opportunities. In this news it seems we are taking this to heart as many of our meetings are on zoom, no nasty cold wet trips to the college, so please don't brave the inclement weather to find no one there, the rest of us will be home and dry.

Zoom Meetings are:

06/02 Working in themed panels - Roger Hance. 7:00

11/02 Advisory night - Print Panel competition. 7:30

11/03 Advisory night - Sports, Games and Pastimes competition. 7:30

13/03 My Creative Journey - Lynda Haney. 7:00

Our other meetings are back at the College at 7:00, they are:

13/02 Let's Talk about Pictures.

27/02 Print Panel competition- Judge. Richard Burn.

06/03 Workshop.

20/03 Curves - The Most Powerful Post-processing Tool .

27/03 Sports, Games and Pastimes competition -Judge. Dave Stewart.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our exhibition,

Mo Hadfield.

Swavesey Camera Club.

www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk

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Swavesey & District History Society

November meeting. Thirty five attended a talk on Agricultural Labourers in the 19th Century by Mike Muncaster from Kimbolton. In almost everyone's family history there are agricultural labourers. In the 1851 census general labourers were the most numerous occupational group in England but their status and rates of pay were the lowest, with two similar groups, shepherds and horse-keepers, being paid slightly more. They worked 6 days/week, usually doing a 60 hour week and joining the army, where food, clothing and shelter were provided, was often a preferred way for young men to escape the land. Even in 1914, general agricultural wages were often only 50 to 75% of what labourers got in other jobs. Protest at the way farm workers were treated was inevitable and the first riots occurred in Ely and Littleport in May 1816. After poor wheat crops in 1815, men returning from the Napoleonic wars found high unemployment and hungry people growing angry at the high cost of bread. At Ely assizes in June twenty four of the riot ringleaders were found guilty of which five were hanged and sentences on the others ranged from 12 months in prison to deportation to Tasmania for life. The Swing Riots were a widespread uprising in 1830/31 by agricultural workers in protest at agricultural mechanisation (the advantage of hand-threshing during winter was that it kept men out of the workhouse) and harsh working conditions along with low wages and the tithe system which required payments to support the established Anglican Church. In November 1831 there were riots in numerous villages between Huntingdon and Peterborough and it was the largest movement of social unrest in 19th century England. Three years later at Tolpuddle in Dorset six farm labourers earning only 8 shillings per week, and with the threat of even less pay to come, were found guilty of forming a trade union by taking an oath of loyalty to each other. They were sentenced to 7 years transportation but there was such a widespread protest at the harshness of the punishment that in due course they were pardoned and brought back to England. Five were so furious at how they had been treated that they quickly emigrated to Canada.

December meeting. Around 30 members attended the AGM. After the formal AGM proceedings three Swavesey residents gave short presentations, each relating to the late John Shepperson, History Society's president, who died aged 93, on 27 September 2024.

Selwyn Richardson reported that John was born on 22 July 1931 in the farmhouse at Boxworth End Farm. He was the youngest of four children, and with the three others being girls his parents were absolutely delighted and enormously relieved to have a boy at last. In February 1960 he married Ann Woodward. Ann, John's wife, died 6 years ago, in early 2019. John spent just about his whole working life as an active member of many community groups. He was on Swavesey Parish Council for 37 years, being Chairman for many of these years. He was a South Cambs District Councillor for 28 years. He was on the Board of Governors of Swavesey Primary School, being Chairman for some years and he was also on the Board of Governors at the Village College.

For six years he was a Trustee of the George Long Charity for Swavesey Memorial Hall, and before that he was a member of the Parish Council Hall Committee for many years. John and Ann regularly attended St. Andrew's church in Swavesey where he was a bell ringer for over 60 years and a long-standing member of the Parochial Church Council. He died peacefully in the afternoon of Friday 27 September. He was an outstanding person and he was a legend in his own lifetime.

Carol Pook reported that in 1957 a young John Shepperson agreed to become a Trustee of the Thomas Galon Charity. He served without a break for 60 years until 2017 and for 41 of the 60 years he was Chairman of the Trustees. In 1528, during the reign of Henry VIII Thomas Galon of Wilburton left agricultural land in Swavesey in his will for the benefit of the local Swavesey community. Carol showed a copy of the will which stated that each year in June all Swavesey residents should be provided with ale, bread and cheese. So far as anyone knows, this hasn't happened yet.

John Pook reported that John Shepperson was a Trustee for over 30 years of the Swavesey Fire Relief Cottages Charity. The four original cottages were built in 1914 after the disastrous fire in March 1913. Two more cottages were added more recently in the rear garden during 2021/22 and at the entrance track to the right of the original four there is a plaque saying, "These cottages were made possible by the generosity of John Shepperson BEM, 2022".

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Swavesey Spartans FC

As we peek around the corner to spring and the new shoots of growth, editorial deadlines require content prior to Christmas, so we start with a look back to the start of the 2024/25 season. It's impossible to look back without recognising the tragic deaths of two players from our sister club, Swavesey Institute. The nature of their untimely deaths reminds us of the importance of both looking out for one another and knowing where to seek help should you need it. All affected remain in our thoughts.

Onto footballing matters, 12 teams ranging from under 7s through to our adult ladies set off on another season in September full of excitement (and some trepidation!), playing in a range of development and competitive leagues.

Highlights include:
A great start for our U8s playing 5 a side with 4 wins, two draws and one loss, scoring 36 goals along the way. Special thanks go to Piranha Precision Engineering for sponsoring the kit.**

U16 Whites (Boys) have coped very well following promotion to the 2nd division and at the time of writing sit unbeaten at the top of the league with 6 wins and 2 draws. A long second half of the season awaits, with many teams looking to topple them off their perch.

The recently amalgamated Swavesey Spartans Ladies and U17 girls teams are thoroughly enjoying their first season together, improving every game with 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses under their belt. The ladies can be seen playing on the green on Sundays. The friendly squad is always looking for new players, so if you keep walking past those old boots in the garage, pop them on and go along and meet the team.

We're always seeking volunteers to run our gateway U6 teams. The club provide access and funding for the relevant coaching qualification, First Aid and Safeguarding courses.

Providing players access to regular sport provides so many benefits, including fitness, improved mental health and well-being as well as the sense of belonging to a team.

Our teams usually play on Saturday mornings at the village green, Fen Drayton, Elsworth and occasionally the 3G facility at SVC. Come along and support us.

In other news:
Our club website has undergone a much needed refresh, so please visit us at:
www.swaveseyspartans.co.uk

The end of this season sees both the club chairperson and treasurer's roles become vacant. Put simply, we can't function without these roles being filled, specifically the treasurer role, so please do contact us if you feel you could provide support in these roles.

**Sponsorship is so important to us. If you run a local business and would like to sponsor one of our teams, please contact our club secretary at:
Swavesey.secretary@gmail.com

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MISCELLANY

It Will Probably Be Cloudy…
A guide to the night sky over Swavesey during February and March.

The full moon on 12th February was known by early Native American tribes as the Snow Moon because the heaviest snows usually fell during this time of the year. Since hunting is difficult, this moon has also been known by some tribes as the Hunger Moon since the harsh weather made hunting difficult.

8th March sees Mercury at Greatest Elongation East. Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun, and the smallest planet in the solar system. It reaches greatest eastern elongation of 18.2 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.

The full moon on 14th March was known by early Native American tribes as the Worm Moon because this was the time of year when the ground would begin to soften, and the earthworms would reappear. This moon has also been known as the Crow Moon, the Crust Moon, the Sap Moon, and the Lenten Moon.

The March equinox occurs on 20th March. The Sun will shine directly on the equator and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night. This is also the first day of spring (vernal equinox).

A partial solar eclipse occurs on 29th March when the Moon covers only a part of the Sun, sometimes resembling a bite taken out of a cookie. A partial solar eclipse can only be safely observed with a special solar filter or by looking at the Sun's reflection. This partial eclipse will be visible throughout most of northern Europe, including the UK.

29th March also sees the first Super New Moon of 2025. When the New Moon occurs near the Moon's closest approach to Earth, its perigee, it is often called a Supermoon. The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This is the best time to do some night sky watching, to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

Betelgeuse, the Red Giant of the constellation Orion is an easy task to find. In the Northern Hemisphere, Orion begins to rise early in the evenings in December and continues to dominate the southern winter sky until about April, when it begins to fade into the sunset. Betelgeuse is in the upper left-hand corner of Orion when viewed from an "upright" perspective.

(Picture credit EarthSky.org)

Betelgeuse is a colossal object — and a very bright one at that. As a red supergiant nearing the final phases of its life cycle, Betelgeuse has an estimated diameter around a thousand times that of the Sun, with an estimated absolute luminosity of 100,000 times the Sun. We're talking about an object larger than the entire orbit of Jupiter — an amazing fact to recall the next time you're out observing this star.

Its immense size makes its distance uncertain. Radio interferometry has resulted in more precise distance measurements around 640 light-years in 2008 (though combined measurements published in 2017 give an even farther distance of 720 light-years).

In Arabic, the name Betelgeuse can be translated as "shoulder of the giant." Many cultures throughout history identified Orion as a hunter or giant. To the ancient Egyptians, the constellation was Osiris, a god and primeval king in the culture's mythology. In some myths originating in the Americas, Betelgeuse represented a wound on Orion, perhaps because of the star's red colour. Betelgeuse also features in Aboriginal Australian mythology, as passed down through oral tradition.

Interestingly, historical records seem to indicate that this giant star may have changed colours within human history. According to Roman and Chinese writings, Betelgeuse appears to have been coloured yellow around 2,000 years ago. Only in the 9th century did Arabic scholars first call this giant as red.

Regardless of its distance, observations do make one thing clear: Betelgeuse is destined to go supernova relatively soon, astronomically speaking. Depending on whom you ask, "soon" could mean it has another 100,000 years, or perhaps up to a million years, to live.

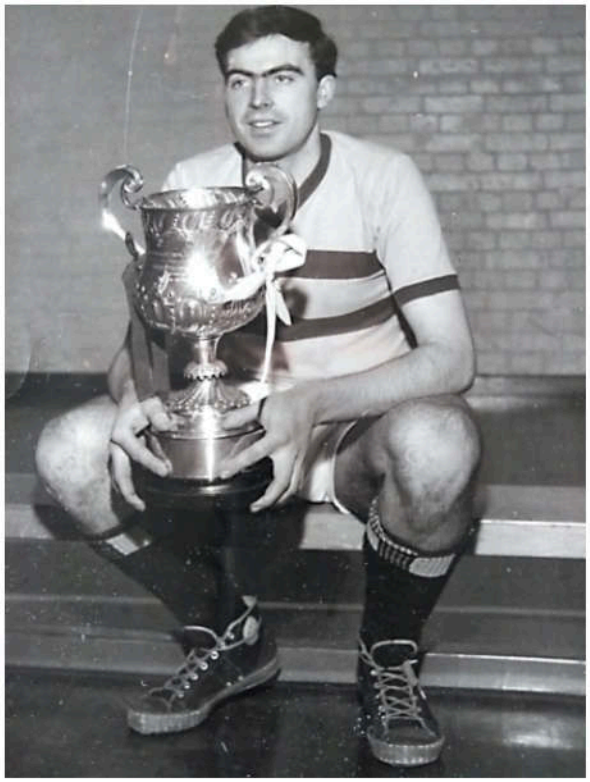
Chris & Helen Nunn

Our brother Geoffrey Wright.

Geoffrey was born in August 1938, the first child of Horace and Jessie Wright of Swavesey. In due time he went to the village school (what is now the Junior School), and in the flood of 1947 he was taken to and from school by horse and cart over the flooded road by Turn Bridge. He went to this school until he left at the age of 15 and then went to Cambridge Technical College to study engineering,

The family increased with the arrival of Clifford in April 1943 and Janice in April 1950.

Geoffrey helped his father on the market garden, and almost every spare moment he was kicking a football. He was a member of the school football team and also the team captain. By the age of 14 he started playing for the village football team.



Geoffrey holding one of the many cups that Swavesey Football Club won in the late 1950's nd 1960's.

On completion of the 2-year technical college course he gained an apprenticeship with a Pye Company in Cambridge. He travelled daily on the back of Brian Norman's motorbike. His friend Brian was sadly killed on his motorcycle when travelling home one evening. After completing his apprenticeship, he continued to work at Barwell Engineering. After a few years he moved to an engineering factory in Duxford so he could work with CNC machines. He passed his driving test so was able to go to Duxford by car. He was there for two or three years and saw an advertisement for a course being run by the M.O.D. in Gosport. This was to do with costing contracts which he was keen to do. On completion of the course he was expected to work for the M.O.D. for a minimum of two years, and he was posted to the Torpedo Factory in Helensburgh, Scotland. He liked working there, and as the years passed he was also given appointments in Glasgow and Edinburgh. He decided that this was to be his 'final' posting, and decided to buy a flat in Livingston, West Lothian.

Geoffrey was a keen photographer and was often taking photos of our family and places at every opportunity. This could be frustrating at the time, but now we have an interesting record of our children growing up. He was also a keen gardener, and always volunteered to do jobs for us in our gardens, and sometimes he would prune things that we had rather he left alone!

In December 2019 he was found wandering after shopping and was unsure where home was. A kind member of the public took him to A and E. He was sectioned and after scans was diagnosed with Dementia. Clifford went to Scotland to see him, and recommended a care home in Broxburn – a short distance from Livingstone.

Goffrey did not want to come to a care home down south as he would not be able to go to his church or see his friends, but sadly he was not able to do either. He was very well cared for in the care home, he did not always recognise us when we visited. We were able to have 'What's App' calls during lockdown and up to March 2024 when Helen, one of the carers would hold the phone so we could 'chat' on the days when he was more alert. It was sad to see his decline as he became unable to walk or feed himself.

We feel we had said 'goodbye' to Geoffrey several years ago, but we miss him and give thanks for his life.

Clifford Wright and Janice Crittenden (nee Wright)

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Swavesey 100 Years ago (Feb & March 1924)
From the Cambridge Chronicle

AN UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY. 8th Feb. 1924
While engaged in threshing operations last March at Moulton Baugate, Lincolnshire, Mr. George Seekings, of Swavesey, lost his watch in the straw stack. Recently a Waggoner was getting some straw for his horses, when he put his fork through the ring of the watch and pulled it out intact. On being wound up, the watch was found to be in good working order.

PIG FEEDING. 15th Feb. 1924
A good-sized and thoroughly appreciative audience attended the lecture on pig feeding, which was given in the National School on Thursday week by Mr. R. Sayce, County Agricultural Organiser. Ald. Dr. J. W. Ellis presided. At the close of the lecture numerous questions were asked, and there was some discussion.

A SAFETY RAZOR. 14th March 1924
A correspondent writes: That shaving is not always an easy or a pleasant operation as is, I believe, generally admitted by those who have to wield a razor on themselves, and complaints of razors that decline to cut, or that cut too freely, are common. The recent experience of a Swavesey ex-Serviceman is, however, somewhat unusual. Having well-lathered his face, he scraped and scraped, but his safety razor failed to reap the hirsute stubble, although it effectively removed the soapy lather. When almost in despair, a friend came on the scene, and, examining the razor, pointed out that the shaver had omitted to insert the blade.

THE INSTITUTE. 14th March 1924
Forty-one new members were elected by the Committee of the Institute on Saturday evening, bringing the total membership up to 165. That the institute is appreciated is shown by the large number of villagers who attend every evening and enjoy the multifarious games provided, read newspapers and other literature, or engage in a social chat. The Committee on Saturday decided to allow dancing on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m., and they hope to arrange lectures, etc., on various subjects. For all these advantages the annual subscription is 6s. for adults and 4s. for juveniles, payable yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly, that is less than three halfpence a week for adults, and about a penny a week for juveniles. The subscriptions to the cricket, football and other clubs and societies in the village are, it is believed, at relatively higher rates.

ADVERTS. 21st March 19240
MRS. Meads has opened a Laundry at Mayleigh, Church End, Swavesey, and is prepared to take in Family Washing. Hand work only. Collars, Shirts, Blouses, etc., a speciality.

Our New Season's Stock of Wallpapers arrived. Good quality combined with cheapness, 3½d. per roll and upwards. – Prior's General Stores.

LECTURE. 21st March 1924
A fair-sized audience greatly appreciated the lecture on the winter feeding of dairy cows, which was given in the Memorial Hall on the 13th inst. by Mr. R. Sayce, County Agricultural Organiser.

THE RECENT FIRE. 21st March 1924
Inquiries are being made in the village as to when the men, who were employed in connection with the fire in Market Street on January 29th, will be paid for their services.

PERSONAL. 28th March 1924
Mr. William Henry Key was 79 on Monday, and, although "in his eighty," he is still wonderfully active, and his interest in his garden and his orchards is as keen as ever. He well remembers his 50th birthday, which fell on Sunday, 24th March, 1895, for on that day a tremendous storm the worse he recollects during the 54 years he has lived in Swavesey, played havoc with the houses, buildings, trees, etc., in the village, as it did in other parts of the country, and even carried the then sexton of the Parish Church "off his legs," when that functionary was struggling to get home after the morning service.

Chris Richardson

Selwyn's Alphanumeric Quiz. Part 3

The verbal numbers quiz is back this month because many find it more interesting than the pop groups quiz.

Example 1: 18 H on a GC. 18 Holes on a Golf Course.

Example 2: 23 R C. H of T H. 23 Railway Cuttings. Home of Tony Hancock

1	7	D of the W		6	76	T in the BP
2	26	L of the A		7	76	Y is the OP of HC
3	1001	AN		8	3	BM (SHTR)
4	32	DF at which WF		9	-40	TAW F & C AE
5	200	P for PG In M		10	90	D in a RA

You will find the answers to this puzzle on page 25

Swavesey Memorial Hall – 100 years old (Part 4)

One hundred years ago Swavesey Memorial Hall was officially opened for the use of the village. How did the village make use of it?

From its opening Swavesey Memorial Hall has been used, as intended, as a venue for Societies and Clubs to hold their meetings etc. The British Legion were early users of the Hall, and the Swavesey W I has used the Hall since its beginning in November 1928 These are only two of the groups to have taken advantage of the space in the Memorial Hall, opened in 1924.

The Hall has always been used for many social occasions. From the start it was used for Wedding Receptions for up to 50 guests. It has also seen the birthday parties of many Swavesey children.

The building of the Hall was seen from the beginning as a meeting place for villagers to take part in ways to improve their bodies and minds. This was the reason to name the Hall Swavesey Memorial Hall and Institute. In May 1919 during the discussion on the need for a village hall in Swavesey it was also noted that:

"An institute is urgently needed as a place of recreation and resort for the younger people of the parish who now have nowhere to go in their leisure time."

A committee was formed, rules were decided and the Institute opened to its members on a Monday evening in March 1924. It proved popular from the beginning for improving talks and generally as a meeting place for members. There was a sporting connection which still exists today. A football club was formed as 'Swavesey Institute Football Club'. The name still exists today, although the Institute does not. A very active Billiards Club was formed from the start and this sport is still represented on the former balcony of the present building.

The Hall also proved useful to education in Swavesey when the main part of the old Village School was condemned as unsafe in November 1934. Two senior classes of the school were removed to the Memorial Hall.

In December 1939 the inconvenience to the users of the Hall was noted by Mr. Barwell, who pointed out that it was accentuated by the arrival of evacuees and their teachers at the start of the Second World War. The 'two rooms' in the Hall were used by the 2 senior village classes in the morning and the evacuees in the afternoon. Light was very poor due to the blackout conditions and restricted lighting allowed by the Parish Council.

Overcrowding was eased as the evacuees began to return home during 1940 so the two schools were amalgamated. Only one evacuee remained in June 1945.

Although the new Junior School on the site of the present Primary School was opened in 1937 the Hall was still in use in January 1947 as the new primary school wasn't ready to accommodate all the pupils. The New school was fully used later in 1947 and the children left the Hall, probably with sighs of relief all round!

The hall was popular throughout the 1940's and early 1950's. However, a low point was reached in 1958 when Swavesey Village College opened in the village. Facilities had begun to need attention, so clubs and societies used those of the new community based Village College which of course were newer and cleaner. In order to carry on, the running of the Hall was transferred from a Hall Management Committee to the Parish Council.

The financing of the building was proving so difficult that a Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 30th May 1961 had a discussion about whether to call a Parish Meeting and

recommend that the Parish be asked for permission for the Council to sell the hall and land. A meeting was proposed for June 1961 of which no records can be found. However, after this the Minutes start to discuss the management of the Hall. No action was obviously taken to sell.

The Parish Council were now in charge of the management of Swavesey Memorial Hall, not a committee from the village which had been set up to do that task. In the minutes of 15 October 1962, the council resumed responsibility for the Hall and decided to draw up a new charity scheme. This is set out in February 1963 with the Parish Council as trustees for the Hall.

In the present century it was realised that the Parish Council should not be in this role. A new charity scheme was set up in 2009 called 'The George Long Charity' for Swavesey Memorial Hall. This group of trustees took charge of running the Hall as regards bookings, maintenance and refurbishment. Trustees are elected or nominated by various village organisations.

Swavesey Village Hall still stands and operates as intended by the people of the village 100 years ago to mark the sacrifice of the First World War. The commemoration above the front windows outlines this for the years 1914 – 1919. The usual dedication would be to 1918, however the treaty formally ending the war was not signed until 1919. Also, the only person to be buried with full military honours in the village was Albert Large who died in 1919. Perhaps they wanted to recognise in him the sacrifice of others.

Chris Richardson

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Compass Café is run as a community event, a place to meet and chat. Your hosts are a group from one of:
Bethel Baptist Church, Girlguiding Units in Swavesey, Swavesey Primary School PTA, St Andrew's Church and Swavesey Women's Institute.

When there is a 5th Thursday in the month other groups are invited to run the café to fundraise. Please get in touch with Sue Ellington if you would like to know more. sue.ellington@virgin.net or phone 01954 202923

Future 5th Thursday dates:
2025: 29th May (half term), 31st Jul (school hols), 30th Oct (half term)

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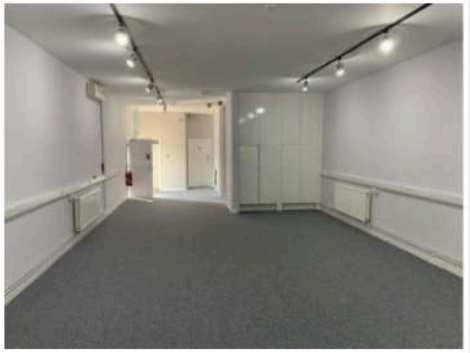

The village of Westwick (near Oakington) is situated approximately 3 miles to the northwest of Cambridge and only 2 miles from the A14 and M11. The Guided Busway, connecting Huntingdon, St Ives and Cambridge, is approximately 150 metres away.

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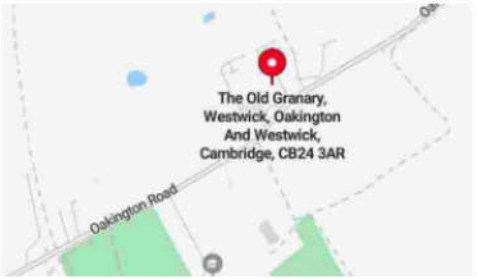

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SWAVESEY LIBRARY

moves to a new location within Swavesey Village College

There's no change to our entrance, it's still on the right hand side of the Gibraltar Lane car park. Just follow the library signs into the college and along the corridor past the new college kitchen to our new location. The old Stage area within the old hall

We hope that by the time you read this article our new much improved library will be fully operational and that we can once again provide you with the majority of the services you may find in the larger town libraries right on your doorstep, such as:-

- A large range of adult fiction, autobiographies and large print books
- Children's early readers to young adult books
- Internet access and local information.
- In addition, with our links to the Cambridgeshire County Council Library Service you can order books from most Cambridgeshire libraries for collection at Swavesey.

All you need to be is a member of the Cambridgeshire Library service to borrow our books (and those from other Cambridgeshire Libraries), and if you're not, then we can soon enrol you and your family.
We also stock numerous second-hand books for sale – only 50p each.

We look forward to welcoming you into our new improved library.

We continue to be open: -
Tuesday afternoons 3.30pm -5.30pm,
Wednesday evenings 5pm – 7pm and
Saturday mornings 10 – 12 noon.

For further information; - see our website:
www.swavesey.org.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
Facebook at Swavesey Village Life or contact
Richard at Richard94hart@gmail.com / 01954 202707 or
Doug at Doughuntuk@yahoo.co.uk / 01954 232478.

Will Wright Memories

So we were enjoying a few more days gigging in Cornwall as it was coming towards the end of 1967, when the local agent asked us if we would be prepared to come back to play down there on a more regular basis, especially the next holiday season. We decided it would be a good idea so long as we could fit a whole load of new gigs in with those being supplied by our existing contacts and our Cornish agent would effectively become our main booking man and he could find us some local accommodation for residence when we were down there, to which he said there would be no problem. So there we were, approaching the end of "67 with a whole new life on the horizon especially when he came up with a small cottage in a hamlet called Lamorick which is on the edge of Lanivet, a village just 8 miles south of Bodmin and a mile from the A30 - the main route down the South & direct route to Truro. I know it was "another era" but it was amazing to think that the agreed price for the rental of said cottage was 3 guineas per week, except when the Surrey owners came down for a summer break when it was upped to 4 guineas per week, would probably be about £300 or thereabouts these days.!

We began to play in more of the large clubs & ballrooms not only those in Cornwall but also Devon, Somerset, Hampshire, Dorset, Surrey and included in several of the army camps which were in abundance in that part of the country, similar to the air-force bases in our eastern regions, which were obviously open & operational for 12 months of the year, One of the largest venues being the Winter Gardens in Penzance, a long way from not only Cambridge but most of the UK and we performed there on a regular basis both in the holiday season and even when it was a local festival venue outside of the main tourist period. There was a large club in Truro called PJs and we performed in there on 2 or 3 occasions with a local band called Smile, who some 3 years later had obtained a new singer called Freddie, yes his surname was Mercury & the band had changed it's name to Queen.

Unfortunately, Dave our keyboard player, was not able to leave the Cambridge area for several reasons and so had decided to move on which left us as a trio, a bit of a challenge but we managed to move on as a 3 piece band. One amusing fact that rapidly became obvious was that when we were still moving around the county during the winter months that the locals stopped referring to us as "Grockles" which is how they refer to tourists & non-residential people. Furthermore we were advised of many of the tracks & back roads to avoid so much of the tourist traffic during the holiday season.. We had also got very used to the longish journey to & from our new base & had taken advice from truckers as to how we could miss the worst of the tourist traffic. One of our regular journeys would take us across Salisbury plain and past Stonehenge in the days when you could walk around the stones of the ancient monument, and one morning we were passing it when it was surrounded by an enormous number of Druids carrying out their ceremony - a great place to take an observation break.

It was of course very nice to be able to get back home to see our families every 3 weeks or so whilst doing gigs in the Eastern counties and our less frequent availability enabled our agent to increase performance price - not that we were rich but we were making a living and having fun at the same time.. Our converted ambulance had by now racked up about 97,000 miles and was larger than our needs once Dave's Hammond organ was no longer with us so we managed to trade it in for a Ford Transit at the local village garage alongside the A30.

Doctors Surgeries

Swavesey Surgery
(01954) 230202
Out of hours 111
Website:- www.swaveseysurgery.nhs.uk
Information & updates on facebook page

Over Surgery
(01954) 231550
Out of hours 111
Website:- www.oversurgery.nhs.uk
Information & updates on facebook page

Longstanton
(01954) 207600
Out of hours 111
Website:-www.willinghammedicalpractice.nhs.uk

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Out of hours (01954) 780442 -
call will automatically be diverted
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7E High Street, Fenstanton
01480 461873

Out of hours111

Website:-www.riverportmedicalpractice.co.uk

See our website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk for the full and latest surgery newsletters. Ed

Answers to Selwyn's Alphanumeric Quiz on page 17

1	7	D of the W	7 Days of the Week
2	26	L of the A	26 Letters of the Alphabet
3	1001	AN	1001 Arabian Nights
4	32	DF at which WF	32 Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes
5	200	P for PG In M	200 Points for Passing Go in Monopoly
6	76	T in the BP	76 Trombones in the Big Parade
7	76	Y is the OP of HC	76 Years is the Orbital Period of Halley's Comet
8	3	BM (SHTR)	3 Blind Mice (See How They Run)
9	-40	TAW F & C AE	-40 Temperature At Which Fahrenheit and Centigrade Are Equal
10	90	D in a RA	90 Degrees in a Right Angle

SATURDAY LUNCH CLUB

OVER DAY CENTRE

Welcoming all residents of Over and surrounding villages to join us for lunch at the Day Centre, lunch service starting at 12:30 following the Memory Café.

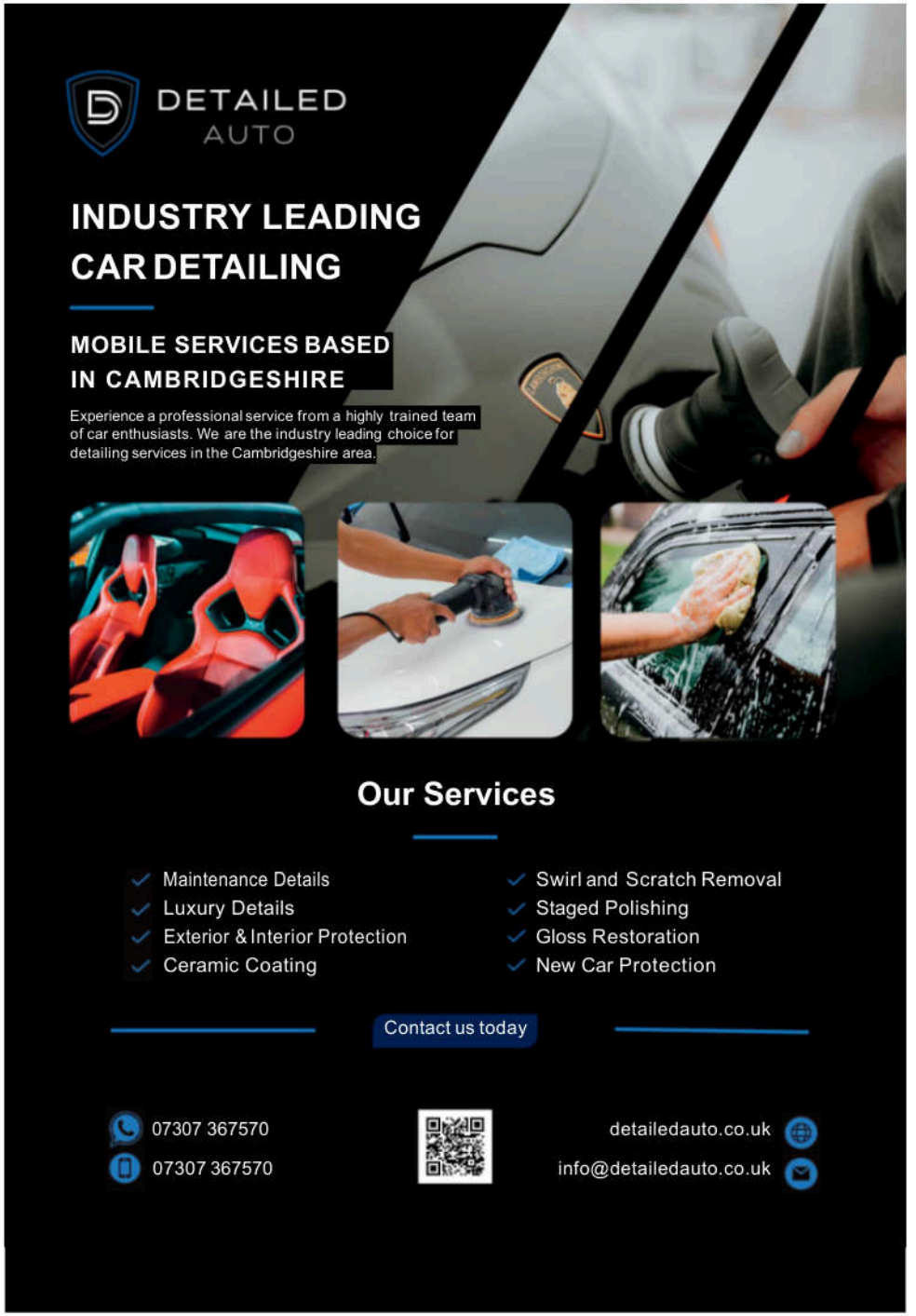
£10.00 per person, main course & dessert, includes teas & coffee

All food is freshly prepared and we're happy to cater for any dietary requirements or allergies

Our menu for lunch is available one month before, either on our website or at the Memory Café.

To book your place or for more information visit our website:
www.overdaycentre.co.uk/whats-on/saturday-lunch-club/

Both events are at The Over Day Centre, 1 Drings Close, Over CB24 5N wheelchair accessible, free parking available.



SCHOOLS INFORMATION

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

Autumn Term fun

At the time of writing, we are at the end of a busy Autumn Term. You may have seen all our units at the Act of Remembrance, we all joined with other units locally for a screening of Inside Out 2 for which Girlguiding produced a badge, and we all took part in UK Parliament Week.

1st Swavesey Rainbows worked towards the sweetie, campfire and Christmas tree challenge badges as well as the feel good stage 1 skills builder. We awarded one Rainbow Silver and two Rainbow Gold awards, and held a Pot of Gold ceremony for five girls moving to Brownies.

1st Swavesey Brownies did the woolly, and book challenge badges this term. The activities included a visit from one of the volunteers from Swavesey Library, making yarn dolls, biscuit decorating, writing our own stories, acting out mini plays that the girls wrote, dancing and lots of new games. We also made dalmatian puppies for our joint scarecrow competition entry '101 Dalmatians' with 2nd Swavesey Brownies. We finished the term with a party and a skipping up ceremony for the girls old enough to move on to Guides or other activities next year.

2nd Swavesey Brownies worked on the communicate stage 2 skills builder and lit fires and ate chocolatey bananas, had a visit from a boxing instructor who taught us some boxing moves, made stained glass windows and poppy brooches for Remembrance, and completed a 'Who Wants to Build a Snowman?' Challenge Badge. We also took part in a joint activity at the Jarman Centre with over 100 Cubs and Brownies. We did a lot of catching up to help our older girls achieve awards before they moved up to Guides at Christmas, and we awarded 4 Brownie Bronze Awards, 2 Brownie Silver Awards and 1 Brownie Gold Award this term.

1st Swavesey Guides held a Patrol Leaders' Council to decide the plan for the term, they did Promise activities, Skills for my Future Live Smart Stage 4 Skills Builder, GOLD 2024 Madagascar Fanilo Challenge Badge and Pamper Party Challenge Badge

They had a weekend residential on a Sausages, S'mores, Snow and Ice themed badges.

1st Swavesey Rangers completed Network Stage 5 Skills Builder. They also did GOLD 2024 Madagascar Fanilo Challenge Badge. Unit Meeting Activities included Guidetopia, Tote-ally-tee, Picture profiles, SLAM, Destructive discussion, Rhythm and rhyme. They also enjoyed a Chip shop hike and a Murder Mystery Evening. They had a weekend residential on a Myths & Monsters theme.

Come and join the fun, we are looking for adult helpers, please sign up here:
www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/

Please sign your daughters up early for Rainbows here:
www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Don't wait until she is 5 and her friends have started! We are full with a waiting list.

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1st Swavesey Scout Group

Beaver Colony:
In the autumn term, our Beavers were busy with exciting activities! They embarked on a thrilling night hike, exploring the wonders of the outdoors after dark. Additionally, they spread festive cheer by carol singing at Thistle Green Sheltered Housing, bringing joy to the residents with their delightful voices.

Cub Pack:
Our Cubs have had a fantastic autumn term as well. They delved into the fascinating world of science by making crystals, a hands-on activity that sparked their curiosity. They also enjoyed an adventurous sleepover at Clip and Climb in Cambridge, where they challenged themselves with climbing activities and had a memorable night with friends.

Scout Troop:
The Scouts have been equally active and engaged. They demonstrated their craftsmanship by building bird boxes, contributing to local wildlife conservation. They also showed their community spirit by volunteering at the St Ives Food Bank, helping those in need. Additionally, they learned about Morse Code, gaining new skills in communication.

Also Skyler Barreto achieved his Chief Scout Silver Award just before he joined Scouts. Well done to Skyler.

Group Activities:
The entire 1st Swavesey Scout Group came together for a significant event this term. They proudly paraded for Remembrance Sunday at St Andrews Church, honouring those who have served. The Beavers presented a beautifully crafted wreath, symbolising the group's respect and remembrance.

Call for Help:
To continue providing these enriching experiences for our young members, we desperately need a new treasurer. If you have financial skills and some time to spare, please consider volunteering for this vital role. Your support will help us keep the group running smoothly and ensure we can continue offering great opportunities for our Scouts.

We also need new volunteers to help at Beavers and Cubs. This would involve helping on a regular basis and possibly helping to lead sessions. It's a lot of fun sharing your skills and knowledge with our young people. Come talk to any of our current leaders for more information please.

We are incredibly proud of all our members for their enthusiasm and dedication. Here's to more adventures and learning this term!

Scouts meet on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. Cubs meet on Tuesday at 6.15pm. Beavers at 6pm on Thursday. Squirrels meet at 4.15pm on Monday.

Beavers (ages 6-8) john.pawson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk

Cubs (ages 8-10½) steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk

Scouts (ages 10½ -14) marian.bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk

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Breakfast Club 7.30 am - 8.55 am

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After School Club 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm

For Reception to Year 6 children: £12 per child, family rate £11 per child

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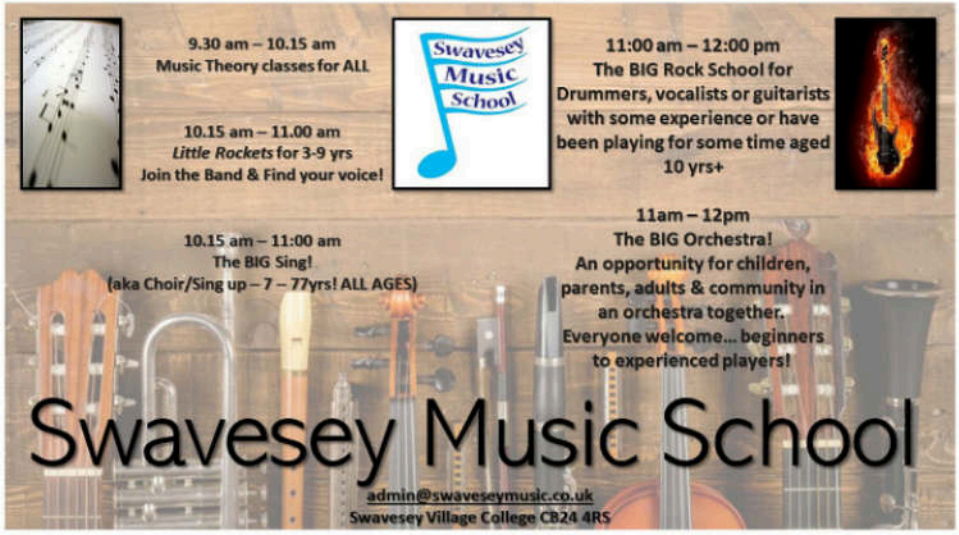
For more information and to register:-

www.swavesey.cambs.sch.uk *(Select EY & P)*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The BIG Rock School for Drummers, vocalists or guitarists with some experience or have been playing for some time aged 10 yrs+
10.15 am – 11:00 am
The BIG Sing!
(aka Choir/Sing up – 7 – 77yrs! ALL AGES)
11am – 12pm
The BIG Orchestra!
An opportunity for children, parents, adults & community in an orchestra together.
Everyone welcome... beginners to experienced players!
Swavesey Music School
admin@swaveseymusic.co.uk
Swavesey Village College CB24 4RS

PARISH & COUNTY NEWS

From Your DC - Sue Ellington

Happy New Year to all Swavesey residents. It is always interesting to think what may happen during the year but the Government has provided many hints during December which will keep us all working hard to ensure the village and countryside we love is designed to help progress and not be destroyed.

During December we have had a significant number of Government Grant opportunities which have kept local charities and community groups working hard to submit applications during the holiday period.

These grants include:

- The UK Share Prosperity Fund which has £100,000 and agreed that 22 local small businesses could receive around £5000 each to build their business. They had a significant number of applications which were scored by officers against agreed criteria.
- Improving the High Street Grant which could be £5,000 - £20,000. "High Street" has a very wide definition to include villages without a high street. Further information at www.scambs.gov.uk/high-street-grant
- Net Zero Villages which could be £20,000 - £100,000 to provide energy efficiency and generation; Low carbon transport, or Nature based solutions.

All of these grants will have been allocated by the time you read this but it does emphasis that there are grants which local groups can get to support and help development. I am always willing to advise but I rarely know about a new grant in time to publish it here, so check SCDC website regularly.

Other Government activity is also going to affect our area. Apart from East West Rail which looks like it will be approved and will affect the route of the A428 and be between us and Cambourne, the Government is introducing new a National Planning Policy Framework which was launched by cabinet members in Cambridge. This must mean that Cambridge is a key target for increase in housing development. I think we are all aware that a large amount of housing is already planned for Cambridgeshire but I believe that developers must be prevented from land banking in order to keep house prices high.

Finally, The Government is currently consulting with councils about amalgamating District and County councils. I can see that it may be less expensive to have one council but the District council knows what is happening at village level and if Cambridge City were part of the new council, village interests would be overruled. There has been a recent growth in layers of government with the Mayor and the Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority but these serve at a higher level and do not understand very local issues.

As usual please get in touch if I can help:-
Cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk. Tel. 07774146331.

Cllr Sue Ellington- Swavesey ward.

SWAVESEY PARISH

Parish Council News November/December 2024

County Council Business
The PC continues to discuss ongoing highway maintenance.

Our County Cllr informed the PC of work to resurface part of Fen Drayton Rd, between Home Close and the Nature Reserve Road, which will take place during February. Dates will be published closer to the time.

Local Parish Councils, residents and County Cllrs have been pressing for safety measures along the A1307 between Swavesey-Bar Hill, following serious accidents and lots of near misses since the road opened. The PC has now heard that additional signage and road markings will be installed, National Highways have agreed to either remove or mask the large green A14 slip road sign, which is leading to confusion along the A1307 and the Police will be carrying out mobile speed enforcement.

Along the Fenstanton-Huntingdon section work will commence in January to replace the safety barriers with planned completion by March 2025. Further work to improve drainage and prevent flooding is ongoing and it is hoped to remove the speed limit restrictions by end of 2024.

Traffic Calming projects

- 20mph limit. In November a draft plan for a 20mph limit through the village was received and reviewed by the Parish Council. A number of questions and comments were raised as the scheme did not cover Boxworth End or Station Rd-Over Rd. The questions were returned to CCC and we await new plans for review.
- Updated plans for the scheme for Boxworth End-Ramper Rd were received in November. Following the comments received at the consultation events earlier this year the options have now removed speed cushions but include instead additional flashing speed signs, more speed sign/roundels painted on the road and visual/painted road narrowing sections. These options are being discussed with the CCC project team in January. Further consultation with residents will follow.
- An application is to be submitted to the Local Highways Improvement Scheme (LHI) funding for the 2025/26 financial year for speed reduction measures in Station Rd-Over Rd, as these roads are not included in either of the above two schemes. The proposals will reflect the measures as for the Boxworth End scheme. These are still being discussed in detail with the CCC projects team and as soon as all of the questions have been addressed, further consultation with residents will take place.
- The Parish Council wishes to be able to consult on all three schemes at the same time.

COUNCIL NEWS

- Speedwatch – If you would like to help with Speedwatch please contact the Parish Council: clerk@swavesey-pc.gov.uk. A training date for volunteers is being arranged for Jan/Feb. The scheme cannot happen without a strong group of volunteers and the more there are the less time each person will have to commit.

Combined Authority (CPCA)
A new bus route has started through the village to provide a service to-from St Ives & Bar Hill. There is no longer a bus along Ramper Rd, instead the route comes from Fen Drayton via Rose & Crown Rd then through the village to Over and beyond, returning back along the same route. This has given Boxworth End a bus service again. The Parish Council is now looking at replacing the old wooden bus shelter on Boxworth End with a new shelter.

Drainage
The PC is still waiting for a response from DEFRA and our new MP following the meeting held in September about concerns over the river flooding and lack of maintenance of the two staunches on the River Gt Ouse. The PC has supported the change.org petition requesting action from the Environment Agency to repair the staunches and carry out work on the river to alleviate flooding. The PC continues to lobby the two MPs in this area regarding this and we are awaiting responses.

East West Rail
The PC has made comments to the consultation raising concerns over: additional traffic to/from the station, potential closure of public rights of way across the new rail line, potential for future housing development around the new Cambourne Station which would increase surface and foul water issues to Swavesey drainage system and asking a question about potential freight along the rail line.

Finance
The PC will set its budget and the level of the Parish Precept for 2025/26 in January.

The PC has been successful with a Fund For Nature grant application made earlier this year, towards Climate Action and Biodiversity mapping for the village.

Village Maintenance
Tree planting around Moat Way pond and general tree maintenance around the village will take place across this winter.

The Parish Council congratulates the Memorial Hall management committee for their successful grant application for solar panels and battery storage for the Hall. This project has now been completed and the Hall will now be generating the majority of its electricity from the panels on the roof.

Further details on everything that is discussed at Parish Council meetings can be found in the Minutes or on the pages of the Council's website at: www.swavesey-pc.gov.uk

Swavesey Parish Council	Website: swavesey-pc.gov.uk	
Parish Councillors	**Telephone (01954)**	**E-mail address**
Doug Hunt (Chairman)	232478	dhunt@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sandie Smith (Vice-Chair)	07806 709939	ssmith@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
James Dodson	230560	jdodson@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Colin Parsons	230861	cparsons@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Martin Johnston	200605	mjohnston@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Warren Wright	203172	wwright@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Jonathan Kerley	231304	jkerley@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Rachel Vollerthun	07312 102526	rvollerthun@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Ellington	202923 / 07774 146331	sellington@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Sue Rogers	0777 224 7673	srogers@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Mandy Smith	07909 798968	msmith@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
Clerk: Linda Miller	202982 / 07458 302193	clerk@swavesey-pc.gov.uk
District Councillor: Sue Ellington	202923 / 07774 146331	cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor: Mandy Smith Papworth & Swavesey Ward	07909 798968	mandy.smith@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Memorial Hall Administrator: Nicole Mullee	07963 861791	memorialhall@swavesey.org.uk

Swavesey Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month for Planning items and on the 4th Monday of each month for Full Council.

All meetings are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. There is always a 10 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

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Services at St Andrew's
Please join us for worship at 11am on any Sunday morning. We usually have a communion service on the first three Sundays in the month and a service of Morning Praise on the fourth at which our band plays. At 8pm on the first Thursday of every month, we have fifteen minutes of silence and prayer followed by Compline remembering the people of Ukraine and other countries affected by war.

You can find information about all our services and events on Facebook and online at A Church near You: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2834/service-and-events/events-all/

Ministry Team:
Rev'd Jenny Hill (Priest and interim Team Leader): jenny@5folds.org.uk
Canon Jan Payne (Licensed Lay Minister): jan.payne@northstowe.church
Colin Smith (Benefice Administrator): 01954 203459 admin@5folds.org.uk
(Colin works Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am to noon)
Churchwardens Jacqui Fuller: 01954 230774 or Bridget Lofts: 01954 231068

Diddy Disciples Sunday School
This is our new Sunday School for younger children. We sing songs, draw and make things and most of all, learn about Jesus. We meet every Sunday at the back of church. Do join us.

Emmaus House Group
We are a small group of people who meet every other Wednesday morning on Zoom to learn more about God through studying the Bible. We choose our own subjects and ask lots of questions but don't always find the answers! More details from Nicky Carne: nicky_carne@hotmail.com or the churchwardens

Craft Group
Our group meets every other Wednesday to work together on group activities; you may have seen the decorations on our carpark cross. You can bring your own craft activity to work on or just come to enjoy the company over a hot drink and cake. Details from Jacqui Fuller: jacqui_fuller@hotmail.com

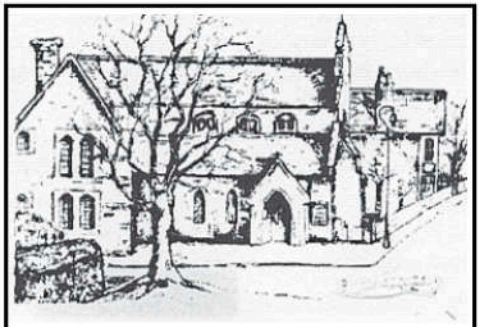
Compass Café "Encompasses the community"
Meet us at Compass Café every third Thursday of the month, 10:30am – 12 noon. Enjoy our wonderful cakes and coffee.

Future Events at St Andrew's
Here are a few dates to put in your diaries:

January/February: Snowdrop Walk in the garden of Priory House (date to be confirmed, look out for information on social media)
February 28th: Quiz Night
March 7th: Cambridge University Gospel Choir
Sunday, March 30th: Mothering Sunday Tea
April 12th: Easter Fair
Saturday, May 17th: Plant Sale

Mothering Sunday Tea
Sunday, March 30th

Memorial Hall
See social media for details



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Musings From Pastor Bob

I don't know about you but I am a creature of habit, there are things in my life that I love to do, commitments I have taken on, and then there are the chores that have to be done. But there comes a time when we have to stop and rethink our routines, our commitments and our ideals.

Why would I stop doing something I love? You might ask. Well, I am going through this process because I do think it is important not only to have a to-do list, but also a stop-to-do list. As we start 2025, perhaps we need to start paying more attention to what we do and to what we should stop doing as well as what you should be doing.

THE STATUS QUO.
All of us have the same 24 hours every day we are alive. We can't get any more time, so we really do have to make decisions. Sometimes these are difficult decisions to stop doing something so that we can create space for something new. The challenge is that we don't know what the new things will be, so we hold on to the old and that is usually because of fear of some kind. Fear that we won't find the new, that the new won't be as good as the old, or that the new won't work out as we expected. So we create a status quo.

Something to consider:

1. We may think that holding on to our status quo is not a decision, but it is. When we are considering our options and don't choose any of them, it seems like we have not made a decision. But we have actually decided not to change.
2. Choosing the status quo will always cost us something. We might choose the safety of the familiar, but then we lose all the possibilities of what the new can or might bring.
3. The status quo isn't good; it's just safe. Ask the questions; if we didn't have this status quo, would we go out of your way again to create our circumstances as they are now? Would we again apply for our current job? Would we buy the same house? Would we have chosen the same career path given the hindsight we have now?

CLEARING THE ROOM.
Maybe it is time for us to clear the clutter and create some space for the new, even if we are not really sure what the new commitment, hobby or the service is going to be. It really is time to give ourselves time to breathe and think, and that of course means stopping the old so we can discover the new, or maybe so the new can discover you.

The New Year is here again. I wonder did we complete the targets we set for ourselves one year ago. Was the past year a voyage of discovery of new sights and smells and tastes? Or has it been a plod of routine and the same old same old?

AN INVITATION.
I am inviting you to join me in creating space for the new, whatever that might be, by discarding some of the old clutter and baggage that we seem to cling on to. None of us know what 2025 is going to bring to us, but I hope it is not the same as 2024 as good as some of that was, I am looking for the new and the promise it brings. Don't be satisfied by just thinking about it, why not pop in for a brew and we can clear some clutter together.

Pastor Bob
Bethel Baptist Church.

BETHEL
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Club Vintage - Wednesdays 2-4pm

Designed to support older people and those with dementia and their carers. There is a small £3 weekly charge. Enjoy a rotating variety of activities such as chair-based exercise, singing, bible-based crafts, quizzes, games and entertainment from others.

Thursdays 10:30am-12:00pm

Compass Café "Encompasses the community"

You will receive a very warm welcome at our community run cafe. Enjoy reasonably priced coffee, tea and homemade cakes.

LITTLE LIGHTS - Fridays 10am-12pm

Baby & toddler group. All are welcome, bumps, babies, toddlers, parents and carers. Drop in at anytime for as long as you need. Only £2 per family, including drinks & snacks for all! We hope you can come along and join us!

The Hub - Youth Group - Fridays 7-9pm

THE HUB

Open to all year 6 and secondary aged children. Come along and meet up with friends, chat, play games, listen to music and much more! Snack bar also available. Parents must complete a permission form.

Sunday Services

You are warmly invited to join us for our weekly services every Sunday from 10:45am followed by coffee in our compass room. Our services are open to everyone and are all family friendly with children's Sunday School groups for all ages! We have a special Communion service once a month on the 3rd Sunday. We also have several home groups which meet during the week for Bible study, prayer and support.

Café Church

Every first Sunday of the month is our alternative all age, café-style service which include refreshments around tables, conversation and maybe even some crafts!

At Bethel we are brought together by our Faith, but what truly makes us family is our passion to serve God and love one another through every season.

We are known for our warm welcome and offer friendship and hospitality to both each other and the local community.

CONTACT US

Pastor Bob- pastorbob@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sue Hope (Secretary) - secretary@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Marianne Holt (Youthworker) - marianne@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk

www.bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk *www.facebook.co.uk/SwaveseyBethel*

Community Groups & Charities

Swavesey Sustainability Hub	The Sustainability Hub is a community group that offers space and support for people to realise their ideas for a more sustainable way of life. Contact: rvollerthun@gmail.com Website: www.thesustainabilityhub.biz
Cam Sight	Cam Sight is a local charity which offers support to anyone with a visual impairment, along with their family and carers. We meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in Bar Hill. For more information please telephone Joan in Bar Hill on 01954 200622 or Alison at Cam Sight on 01223 420033 or email alison@camsight.org.uk. For more info see:- www.camsight.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help	CHH is a charity that helps people with hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries and they attend Swavesey quarterly at Thistle Green. Advice on any aspects of hearing loss is available at a hearing help session or by calling the office on 01223 416141, E-mail: enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk Website: cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk
Care Network	Care Network supports volunteers, encourages independence and develops good neighbour projects. We provide the Welcome Home from Hospital service across Cambridgeshire. Contact:- Care Network, 5 Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge, CB23 7QJ (tel: 01954 211919). Website: care-network.org.uk/
Compass Cafe	Meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 until 12.00 at Bethel Baptist Church. Contact Sue Ellington on 01954 202923 or sue.ellington@virgin.net
Dog Lovers of Swavesey	Dog Lovers of Swavesey is a friendly group where anyone with a love for dogs is welcome with or without dog. Meetings are on the Recreation Green organised through the Facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/dogloversofswavesey where we also exchange tips, ask for advice or have a laugh. Resources are gathered at https://dogloversofswavesey.co.uk/. Contact: Matt at matthewyoung1@btinternet.com or Anita at anita.faul@outlook.com" Tel 01954 232791
Swavesey Library	A volunteer run community library based in Swavesey Village College. We are able to providing a full range of library facilities being directly linked to the Cambridgeshire County Council library service. For more info see:- www.swavesey.org.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
The Friends of the Rosie Hospital	The Friends of the Rosie Hospital are helping to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. Contact:- Mrs Mary Sanders (Hon Chair) rosieinstitches@ukonline.co.uk Tel 01223 356615
East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH)	Put your free time to good use and volunteer at East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) in Milton. Volunteering at a children's hospice doesn't always mean care work and fundraising as there are also tasks such as admin and maintenance of the grounds. Contact:- Clare Bates on 01223 815134, Email: clare.bates@each.org.uk
OWLS Community Car Scheme	Run by DBS checked volunteers the scheme offers a door-to-door service, for medical or some social journeys, to people who are unable to access other forms of transport. Ring 07505 254363 to book a journey, find out more, or to volunteer as a driver Website: http://www.swavesey.org.uk/village-links/owls-community-care-scheme/

CLUB INFORMATION

Army Cadets UK	Swavesey Detachment, No 2 (Cromwell) Company, Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force meets each Tuesday evening at the Swavesey Village College from 7 pm. New recruits are welcomed from ages 12 years (year 8) to 18 years. www.armycadets.com/county/cambridgeshire-acf/
Swavesey Five-a-Side Football Club	Currently seeking new members for this long-established club. We play each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the new sports hall at Swavesey Village College. Enquiries to Stewart Smith (07803 050234).
Swavesey Girlguiding	Unit / Evening / Contact 1st Swavesey Rainbows / Thursdays / caroline@overroad.co.uk 1st Swavesey Brownies / Mondays / swaveseybrownies@outlook.com 2nd Swavesey Brownies / Wednesdays / secondswaveseybrownies@outlook.com 1st Swavesey Guides / Thursdays / swaveseyguides@gmail.com 1st Swavesey Rangers / Thursdays / swaveseyrangers@gmail.com
Swavesey Spartans	Swavesey Spartans (swaveseyspartans.co.uk) is a Chartered Standard Football Club affiliated to Cambridgeshire Football Association. The club delivers football for children aged 6 and above. The club helps with the transition to open age football. Colts football ceases at the end of a player's Under 18 season. Open age football for men in Swavesey is available through Swavesey Institute FC (separate entry in this section of the Meridian). Swavesey Spartans FC have an open age football team for ladies playing league games on a Sunday. For more information about Spartans please contact Lewis Walsh (swavesey.chairperson@gmail.com) or Mrs Paula Land (swavesey.secretary@gmail.com
1st Swavesey Scout Group	All sections meet at the Scout Hut on the SVC site **Beavers** Day: Thursday 18:00 to 19:00 Contact: John Pawson - Beaver Leader john.pawson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Cubs** Day: Tuesday 18:15 to 19:30 Contact: Steven Wilson - Cub Leader steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Scouts** Day: Wednesday 19:00 to 20:30 Contact : Marian Bentley - Scout Leader Marian.Bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk For any other enquiries please email info@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre	Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre are based in their own purpose-built unit on the primary school site. It comprises Early Years children (aged from 2 years and 6 Months) between 9am and 3pm (formerly Swavesey Pre School) and we provide activities and care for primary school aged children before and after school. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 am to 9am and After School Club from 3.15pm to 6pm. For information please contact Carol Panther (Early Years and Playwork Manager) by email: eyandp@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk or by phone (01954) 273312 Ext 2 or 07803 812221.
Swavesey Community Choir	If you enjoy singing and having fun then come and join Swavesey Community Choir. We meet every Wednesday in term time in Fen Drayton Village Hall, Cootes Lane, Fen Drayton from 7.45pm - 9.30pm. You don't need to be able to read music and no auditions needed, tenor and bass voices particularly welcome. For further details contact Julie Holmes julieholmes78@gmail.com Website: www.swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk

British Tang Soo Do Institute	British Tang Soo Do Institute practices the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do. Our club training covers self defence techniques and many aspects of fitness including flexibility, coordination, conditioning, balance and discipline helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. For further information please contact Master Jeff Cockram on 07863 345681 or jeff@btsdi.co.uk Or see our website: www.btsdi.com
Swavesey Tang Soo Do Club	Swavesey Tang Soo Do have classes on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Classes are in the primary school main hall at 6pm. The contact details are Master Louise Morton on 07919 050261 or email enquiries@swaveseytsd.co.uk. The website is www.swaveseytsd.co.uk
Allotments in Swavesey	Down Hale Road towards the windmill and on the right there are 61 plots, mostly 150 sq yds (125 m2) in area, backed up by eight water tanks. Large yields of a wide range of high quality vegetable, fruit and flower crops can be grown successfully. If you are interested in joining the waiting list contact Val Sage Tel (01954) 230853
British Legion	For information contact:- Secretary - Angela Dye. (01954) 277453. email: dyeangela0@gmail.com
Swavesey Badminton Club	Located at the Swavesey Village College Sports Centre.The Club offers a high standard of play at club nights on Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm and on Fridays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We play competitive badminton in the Cambridge leagues and run men's, women's and mixed teams.Contact Helen Taylor on (01954) 230997 Email: enquiries@swaveseybadminton.net Website: www.swaveseybadminton.net
Swavesey Billiards and Snooker Club	For information/membership please contact Graeme Waites (01954 230113) Email graham.waites566@btinternet.com
Swavesey Camera Club	At Swavesey Camera Club we are proud to cater for photographers of all standards. For more information visit our website at:- www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk. We meet every Thursday, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Lecture Room, SVC. Non-members welcome - £4 charge (first visit free). For further details please ring Simon Shore (01954) 230848
Swavesey Squash Club	Swavesey Squash Club has three international standard squash courts, in our recently refurbished clubhouse, on the Swavesey Village College site. The club has a number of weekly sessions running, suitable for beginners, improvers, and more advanced players. Unlimited use of the facility from £17 a month. A welcoming and active community club with social events and opportunities for competition. Visit our website for more details or contact Ali Loke on 07776 176866/ali@alilokesquash.com. www.swaveseysquash.com
Swavesey & Over Cycling Club	We meet regularly throughout the year, with rides most weekends and also weekdays on spring and summer evenings. As a Cycling UK affiliated club our goal is to explore a joint passion for cycling in a safe, inclusive and social way. We aim to organise events throughout the year from day & weekend rides in the UK and long weekend trips in Europe. Contact: John Craven Email: socccommittee@gmail.com Facebook: https://bit.ly/3GJCksZ_SOCC or Website: https://swaveseyovercc.wixsite.com/socc

Over Netball Club	Local friendly club, everyone welcome, from back-to-netballers to seasoned players. We have teams playing in CDNL and Fenland Netball league. Training is on Tuesdays 7-8:30pm at Northstowe Secondary School. First month is free, £15 per month thereafter. Contact overnetballclub@gmail.com for more information.
Over & Willingham Cricket Club	We have 2 open age (adult) cricket teams in the Cambridgeshire Saturday afternoon league playing 40 over cricket between the start of May and the end of. August. If you are interested in joining our club, please get in touch with one of the club officials, come along to one of our training sessions or approach any club member on our matchdays (Saturday's). Contact Jane Reeson if you are interested. email - reesonhkx46k@aol.com; Telephone 07768 540146; or Facebook - Over and Willingham CC, or Website - overandwillingham.play-cricket.com
Swavesey Music School	Meets every Saturday of term time at Swavesey Village College. For further details see: www.swaveseymusic.co.uk/
Swavesey District Bridleway Association	A liaison group representing local horse riders whose main aim is to protect existing and create safe new horse riding links between all local villages. New members welcome. Regular Newsletter/Social events calendar. Please contact Sue Rogers (01954) 232758
Swavesey & District History Society	Meet every third Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, Carole Shaw room, SVC. Contact Carolyn Redmayne, Secretary (01954) 230037
Swavesey Institute Football Club	Swavesey Institute FC have 2 teams in the Cambs County Saturday afternoon leagues. For information about the club or if you are interested in playing open age (adult) football for the village please contact Martin Pickering on 07737 391445
Linedance	Linedance classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Bethel Baptist Church 9-30 to 11-30 am. Beginners always welcome. Contact Deborah Walker (01954) 231382 Email: deborahwalker105@talktalk.net
Swavesey & Over Conservation Society	At the moment we organise interesting walks If you need a lift: Phone: Trevor Grange - 01954 230119 or Pat Miles - (01954) 780485. Guests Are Always Welcome!
Swavesey & Over Tennis Club	Club night 1 October to 1 April is on Monday, 7.00 to 9.00pm. From 1 April - 30 September there will be club nights on both Mondays and Wednesdays. We welcome new members from anywhere in the locality. Further information from s.taylor996@btinternet.com https://swaveseyovertennis.wixsite.com/sotc
Swavesey RADSoc	Friendly local drama group staging two or three productions a year.New members always welcome.Contact: Nathalie Balzano: nathaliewoodward@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.swaveseyradsoc.org.uk
Swavesey W.I.	We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome to enjoy a variety of invited speakers and have a chat and cup of tea/ coffee afterwards. For further information contact Margaret Guest tel (01954) 202757
Women's Walking	Women's Walking on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00am. Meet on Market Street green. Walk for approximately one hour on pathways in and around Swavesey. A chance to exercise and chat. - Reasonably robust footwear recommended. All welcome.

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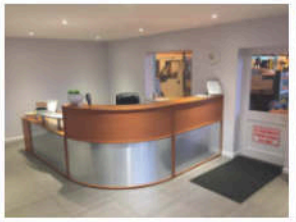

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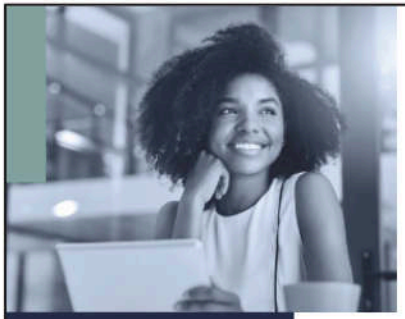

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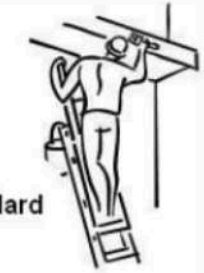

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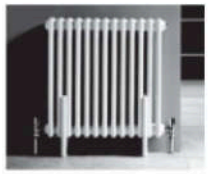

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NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR EVENTS

Please use this form to notify us of any major events you are organising so that we can publish the dates in the magazine and on the website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

It is hoped this will avoid major events clashing on the same day. Please send to the Editor, 14 Black Horse Lane, Swavesey.

Event _____

Location _____ Date _____ Time _____

Contact Name _____ Tel No. _____

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or somebody that you know by announcing it in this magazine, please fill in the form below.

Also supply your name and contact details, and return to the Editor by the copy date.

We will endeavour to include it in our next issue.

SHORT MESSAGE:

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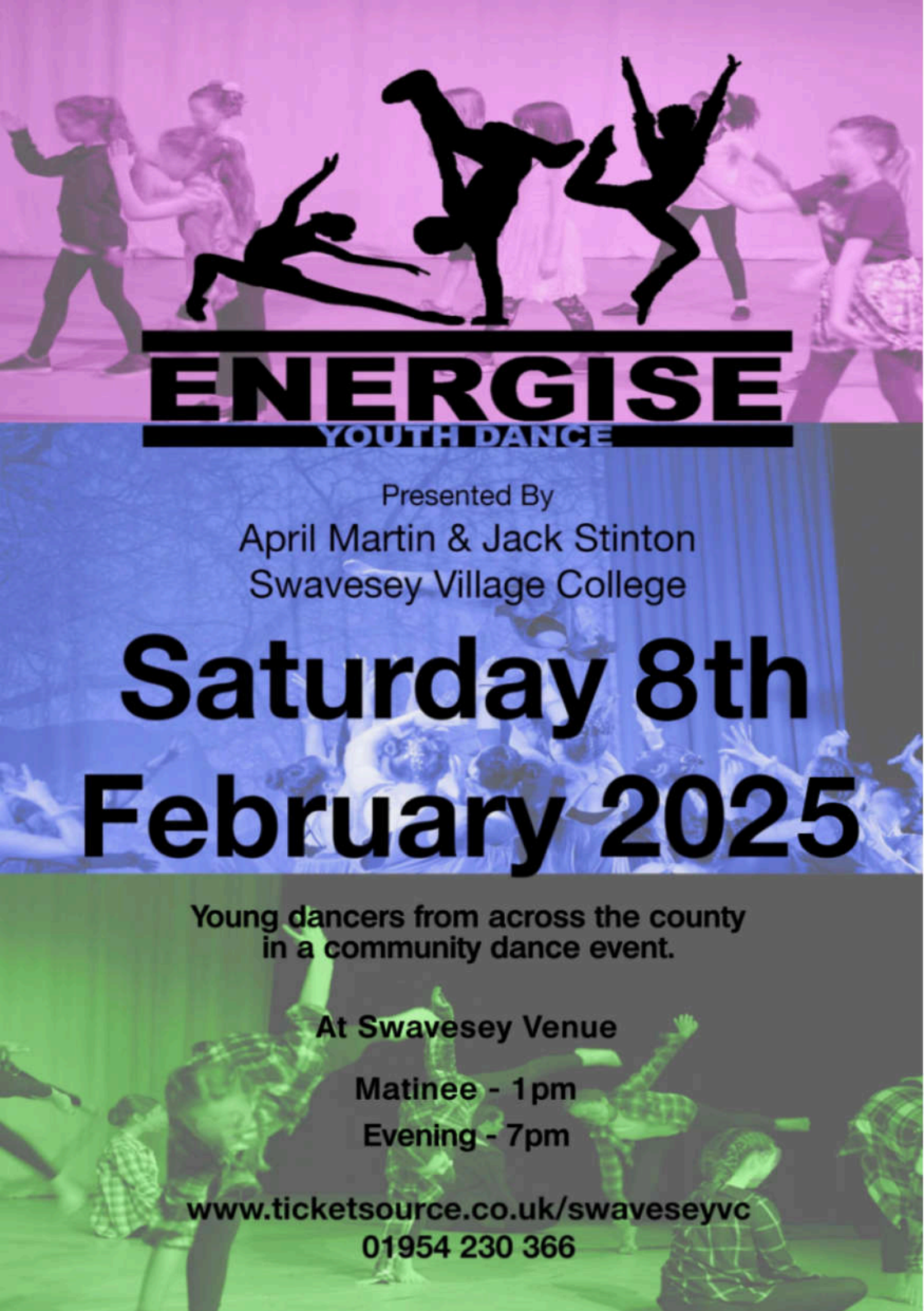

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